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CITY CLERK
HONOLULU, HAWAII

January 27, 2013

The Honorable Ernest Y. Martin, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Written Testimony in Support of Mark K. Rigg, as Director of
Honolulu Emergency Services Department

Dear Chair Martin and Members of Council:

This testimony is offered in support of the nomination of Mark K. Rigg as the Director of the Honolulu Emergency Services Department ("HESD"). For the past 2 years, Mark and I have worked side by side in the field of community cardiac arrest and automated external defibrillators. While working together our goals have been to increase the survival rates on Oahu of those who experience a cardiac arrest outside the hospital and how to better prepare the community to become a vital component in saving the lives of their friends and loved ones. Mark's support with these community programs will make Oahu a safer place to live, play, and visit. With this nomination to the Director's position I know that Mark will be able to expand these life saving community programs and make Oahu the safest county in the state if not the country.

Mark has served the City and County of Honolulu for almost 30 years, beginning as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) following his graduation from Pepperdine University. With the exception of a brief detour to play professional volleyball in Italy early in his EMS career, Mark has worked continuously for the City and County, progressing through the field personnel ranks from EMT to MICT (Paramedic), into Division Management as a Unit Supervisor and Field Operations Supervisor (District Chief), and most recently into City and Departmental Administration as the Deputy Director of HESD from February 2011-December 2012, until his current nomination by Mayor Kirk W. Caldwell, as the Director Designate for HESD. Mark is uniquely qualified to lead HESD and its EMS and Ocean Safety Divisions.

With dedication and tireless commitment to developing the "next generation" of EMS and Ocean Safety personnel, Mark has provided leadership and career development opportunities to numerous City and County employees in an effort to retain talented individuals and to ensure the continuous delivery of exemplary public safety services to residents and visitors to the Island of Oahu.

As Director of HESD, Mark can and will continue to make a difference between the ordinary and extraordinary provision of first responder services to our community. He is well poised to lead HESD into the future and to adapt to the challenges and circumstances that may arise along the way. As such, I respectfully request that this Council affirm the Mayor's designation of Mark K. Rigg as Director of the Honolulu Emergency Services Department. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Pamela Foster, RN
President of AED Institute
Founder of Hawaii Heart Foundation



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